

REMARKS

Overview

In the Office Action dated September 21, 2004, claim 69 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 34-39, 45-48, 52-53, 58 and 65-68 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,880,633. Claims 60-62 and 64 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,072,364.

Claim Status and Amendments

The Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter with respect to claims 40-44, 49-51, 54-57, 59 and 63 is noted with appreciation. As a result, Applicants have amended claims 34, 45, and 60 and added new claim independent claim 70 and dependent claims 71-78. The amended independent claims include the limitations of an allowed claim in combination with a base claim and any intervening claims.

Specifically, amended claim 34 incorporates the elements of allowable claim 42. Amended claim 45 incorporates the elements of allowable claims 50 and 59. Additionally, amended claim 60 incorporates the elements of allowable claim 63. New claim 70 incorporates the elements of previously presented claim 34 and allowable claim 43.

In response to the Examiner's §112 rejection, claim 69 has been amended to depend from claim 60. As a result, antecedent basis with regard to "said update means" and "said determining means" is now proper.

As a result of these amendments, claims 42, 53, 50, 59 and 63 have been canceled as duplicative of claimed subject matter. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is entered by the present amendments to claims.

Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance and that the rejections based upon the cited references are now moot.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe the above amendments and remarks to be fully responsive to all the grounds of rejection raised in the Office Action. Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider the application and claims 34-41, 44-49, 51-58, 60-62, and 64-78, in light of the foregoing Amendment and Response, and respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants request withdrawal of all grounds of rejection, and allowance of claims 34-41, 44-49, 51-58, 60-62, and 64-78 in due course.

If, in the Examiner's opinion, a telephonic interview would expedite the favorable prosecution of the present application, the undersigned attorney would welcome the opportunity to discuss any outstanding issues, and to work with the Examiner toward placing the application in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,



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